संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) और (ख) जी नहीं, इस संबंध में 8वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के उद्देश्यों में निम्नलिखित की परिकल्पना है :–

- दिनांक 1.4.97 तक सभी एक्सचेंजों में एन०एस०डी०सुविधा प्रदान करना।
- दिनांक 1.4.95 तक उपमंडलीय मुख्यालयों/तहसील मुख्यालयों या उनके बराबर के नगरों तथा 500 और उससे अधिक लाइनों वाले एक्सचेंजों को इसमें शामिल किया जाएगा।
- दिनांक 1.4.95 तक सभी औद्योगिक विकास केन्द्रों, पर्यटन और तीर्थस्थानों को एन०एस०डी० सुविधा प्रदान कर दी जाएगी।

Telephone services at cheaper rates in rural areas of Maharashtra

866. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of villages, district-wise, in Maharashtra which are being covered by the scheme of "Providing telephone services at cheaper rates in rural areas" during the year 1994-95 with details thereof;

(b) whether the scheme has not yet been implemented; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) A target of covering 6449 villages in Maharashtra under the policy of Village Public Telephones, which provides telephone services at cheaper *rates* in rural areas, has been fixed for ihe year 1994-95. The scheme is being implemented, and, as on 30-11 -94,1170 villages of Maharashtra have been covered during the current financial year. Distrietwise details are given in the statement *(See* below) Directory of names of such villages has not been finalised as yet.

(c) Such a scheme of covering all the villages with telephone services in the country, including those of Maharashtra is likely to be implemented progressively by March, 1997 subject to availability of resource s

Statement

Distrlct-wise details of Villages in Maharashtra provided with Telephone facility during 1994-95 (as on 30-11-94)

Sl. No.	Name of the District	PTs provided during 1994-95 (1-4-94 to 30-11-94)
	(GM Vidarbha)	
1	Akola	130
2	Amravati	22
3	Bhandara	34
4	Buldhana	132
5	Chandrapur	52

1	2	3
6	Gadchiroli	0
7	Wardha	101
8	Yeotmal	84
	SUB-TOTAL	555
	(GM Bombay)	
9	Jalgaon	31
10	Raigad	0
	SUB-TOTAL	31
	(GM South MH)	
11	Ratnagiri	0
12	Sindhudurg	0
13	Sangli	27
14	Satara	16
15	Solapur	21
	SUB-TOTAL	64
	(GM Nasik)	
16	Nasik	24
17	Dhule	15
	SUB-TOTAL	39
	(GM Nanded)	
18	Ahmednagar	20
19	Aurangabad	56
20	Jalna	40
21	Beed	0
22	Latur	26
23	Osmanabad	44

1	2	3
24	Nanded	63
25	Parbhani	94
	SUB-TOTAL	343
	(GM Kalyan)	
26	Thane	0
	(GM Kolhapur)	
27	Kolhapur	27
	(GM Nagpur)	
28	Nappur	35
	(GM Pune)	
29	Pune	96
	TOTAL	1170

Postal services in Maharashtra

867. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: WiH the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

v«i) whether al! villages and important towns in Maharashtra have been provided with postal services;

(b) if not, the number of villages and (owns separately where postal services are yet to be provided and the number of villages and towns where postal services have been provided; and

\c| the steps taken by Government to increase such services in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (Yes, Si».

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The postal facilities are being extended by opening of new post offices under Plan scheme progressive ly. During the first two years of the Eighth five Year Plan, 142 extra departmental branch post offices and 39 departmental sub post offices have been> sanctioned in Maharashtra.

Improvement in communication system in Maharashtra

868. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of COMMINI-C AT IONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plants to improve the telephone, post and telegraph services in Maharashtra with modern facilities;

(b) if so, the details ther of; and